

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

To provide indirect electrical stimulation for treatment of degenerative retinal diseases, such stimulation is applied to surface structures of the eye. A source of an electrical stimulation signal is coupled to at least one stimulating electrode configured for chronic contact with a surface structure of an eyeball. Additionally, at least one return electrode, which may be configured either for contact with conductive biological tissue distant from the eyeball or for contact with a surface structure of the eyeball, is also coupled to the source. The source of the electrical stimulation signal may be implemented internal to a body of a patient, external to the body or through a combined internal/external approach. The active and return electrodes are preferably arranged such that the circuit created by the source, stimulating electrode, biological tissue and return electrode provides trans-retinal electrical stimulation to thereby effect treatment.